

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) Thermoplastic composition comprising at least an hypophosphorous acid metal salts as halogen-free flame retardant agent and at least an aromatic polycarbonate resin.

2. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said aromatic polycarbonate resin is blended with a graft copolymer styrenic resin and that the polycarbonate resin/graft copolymer styrenic resin ratio ranges from 60/40 to 90/10.

3. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said polycarbonate resin is obtained by reaction of bis(hydroxyphenyl)alkanes, 2,2bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)propane (bisphenolA), bis(4-hydroxyphenyl) methane, 1,1-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)ethane, hydroquinone, resorcinol, catecol.

4. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said polycarbonate resin is a recycled polycarbonate materials ~~(also named scrap PC, such as post industrial products, post consumer recycled materials) as such (as pellets or as regrind)~~ or in mixture with virgin polycarbonate polymer or also blended with an impact modifier resin.

5. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said polycarbonate resin has an average Molecular Weight from 10000 to 50000.

6. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said graft copolymer styrenic resin are selected ~~[[among:]]~~from impact resistant polystyrene (HIPS), ABS resins, and MBS resins.

7. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said styrenic resin amount ranges from 10% to 40% by weight based on the weight of total resins.

8. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said metal is an alkaline metal belonging to the first, second and third main group or second, seventh, eighth subgroup of the periodic table of the elements.

9. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 8, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said metal is selected ~~{{among:}}~~from Ca, Ba, Mg, Al, Zn, Fe, and B.

10. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said hypophosphorous acid metal salt is Calcium hypophosphite and/or Aluminium hypophosphite.

11. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said hypophosphorous acid metal salt is present in an amount ranges from 1% to 30% by weight on the weight of the composition.

12. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said hypophosphorous acid metal salt is present in combination with halogen-free organic phosphoric esters.

13. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 12, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said halogen-free organic phosphoric esters are selected ~~{{among:}}~~from triphenylphosphate, (TPP), tricresyl phosphate, trixylilenphosphate, resorcinoldiphosphate, resorcinolbis diphenylphosphate, bisphenol A bis diphosphate, trimethylphosphate, tributylphosphate, and trioctylphosphate.

14. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said hypophosphorous acid metal salt has an average particle size of the powder (d50%) lower than 40 µm and an highest particle size below 100 µm.

15. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 14, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said hypophosphorous acid metal salt has a d50% value below 20 µm and an highest particle size below 50 µm.

16. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that it~~which also comprises additives and/or fillers, said additives being present in an amount ranging from 0.5 to 5% by weight on the weight of the composition, said fillers being present in an amount up to 50% by weight on the weight of the composition.

17. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 16, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said additives are selected from~~[[::]]~~ processing aids, heat and process stabilisers, UV stabilisers, antidripping agents, pigments, lubricants, mould releasing agents, colorants, and plasticizers.

18. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that it~~which also comprises fluorine-containing ethylene polymers in an amount of up to 2%, ~~preferably up to 1%, based on the weight of thermoplastic composition.~~

19. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 18, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said fluorine-containing ethylene are selected ~~[[among:]]~~from polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or tetrafluoroethylene-hexafluoropropylene copolymers (Algo-flon.TM.).

20. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 18,
~~characterised in that~~wherein said fluorine-containing ethylene are characterized by a particle size
from 0.1 μm to 10 μm .

21. (Currently Amended) Thermoplastic composition according to claim 16,
~~characterised in that~~wherein said fillers are selected ~~[[among:]]~~from carbon fibers, glass
~~fibre~~fibers, glass beads, amorphous silica, kaolin, chalk, mica, calcinated kaolin, wollastonite,
and talc.

22. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a thermoplastic composition
according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the starting components and the additional
components are mixed and kneaded in predetermined ratios, extruded and pelletized.

23. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 22, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the
kneaded temperature is comprised between 240 and 290°C.

24. (Original) Thermoplastic articles obtained using a halogen-free flame retardant
composition according to claim 1.